

The Contractor shall establish and maintain direct communications with FNS-authorized retailers as part of its successful performance of required retailer (stakeholder) management responsibilities. The Contractor is solely responsible for the management of food stamp retailer recruitment, involvement, participation and performance. The Contractor shall consult with and be responsive to requests from representatives from retailer organizations during all phases of the project. The State will also participate in these consultations as needed.

At the request of the State, the Contractor shall also participate in consultations with other California stakeholder groups at locations throughout the State. These include, but are not limited to, benefit recipients, client advocates, county and state government employees, and informational and focus group meetings.

Bidder understands and will comply: Yes _____ No _____

Discussion (if any): _____

5.12.6 Independent Verification and Validation

The EBT Project will utilize an Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V) vendor. The Contractor must work cooperatively with the State's IV&V vendor. The IV&V vendor responsibilities will include tasks such as review and evaluation of all deliverables, including major project milestones such as preliminary and final designs; establishing project related-standards (e.g., design, programming, testing and training); and preparing all pertinent internal documentation (e.g., project organization, quality assurance plan), design/walkthrough sessions, training, testing, task and schedule validity, and participation in work in progress as directed by the State.

Bidder understands and will comply: Yes _____ No _____

Discussion (if any): _____

5.12.7 Standards for Acceptance of Deliverables

5.12.7.1 Work Standards for the California EBT Project

- The Contractor shall use the standard project management, word processing, relational database management, presentation and spreadsheets products used by the State (Microsoft Office), at the version levels specified by the State, in the preparation of all Project correspondence and deliverables. The Contractor is required to upgrade software versions at no cost to remain compatible with the State.
- The Contractor shall propose a format for each deliverable and gain State approval prior to deliverable preparation. This approval process shall include submission of a Deliverable Expectation Document (DED) as specified in Section 7 of the Model Contract, Deliverables. The Contractor shall also meet with the Project Director to review an outline of each Project deliverable in advance of its preparation. The Contractor shall provide a draft Table of Contents as part of the outline. Once the Contractor has begun to develop the deliverable, the Contractor shall submit sample